

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

# Virginia Migratory Waterfowl 2010-2011 Seasons and Bag Limits



To be used as a supplement to Hunting and Trapping in Virginia, 2010-2011 Regulations which contains additional information on license requirements, license fees, and general regulations governing hunting in Virginia as well as open seasons and bag limits on non-migratory game birds, game animals, and furbearing animals.

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Cover artwork: Wood ducks ©Spike Knuth

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## Virginia's Wildlife Restoration Program and You

Hunters and trappers create many opportunities for Virginians to enjoy exceptional hunting, trapping and wildlife watching. Through the Federal Assistance in Wildlife Restoration program, you help the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries make wildlife oriented outdoor recreation even better each time you buy a firearm, ammunition or a hunting or trapping license.

When you buy hunting-related equipment, a portion of the excise tax levied on the manufacturer goes to the Federal Assistance in Wildlife Restoration program. Virginia receives about \$6.5 million each year from this program, which funds a large portion of the Department's habitat management and wildlife population research projects.



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**Caution:** More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on Federal regulations, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, 5721 South Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23231; phone (804) 771-2883, 771-2280; FAX (804) 222-8421.

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

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# What's New For 2010-2011

## Ducks

- The daily bag limit for ducks has increased to 6 ducks per day (possession limit 12); it was 5 ducks per day last year.
- The daily bag limit for pintail ducks has increased to 2 per day (possession limit 4); it was 1 per day last year.

## Light Geese

- The daily bag limit for light geese (Greater and Lesser Snow geese, and Ross' geese) has increased to 25 per day (no possession limit); it was 15 per day last year.

## Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations

- Federal migratory bird hunting regulations have been updated and are included in this brochure on pages 16 through 20. Hunters should become familiar with all federal and state regulations found in this brochure before hunting any migratory game bird.

## Non-toxic Shot

Non-toxic shot approved by the Department [steel, bismuth-tin, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-polymer, tungsten matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron (HEVISHOT), tungsten-iron-nickel-tin (TINT), tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten-tin-iron, and tungsten-iron-polymer shots] is required for hunting all waterfowl, mergansers, coots, moorhens, gallinules, snipe and rails. Lead shot is **not allowed** for hunting these species and **cannot be in possession** in the field while hunting these species. Shot size should be no larger than "T".

## Waterfowl Information

The web is a wonderful tool for waterfowlers. Information on season dates and bag limits can be found along with information on waterfowl population status, habitat conditions, as well as current waterfowl research being conducted in Virginia.

Sites we recommend include:

Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries Waterfowl Homepage:  
[www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/waterfowl/](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/waterfowl/)

USFWS and Flyway Council website: [www.flyways.us](http://www.flyways.us)

Federal Register Documents: <http://www.fws.gov/policy/>

## AD PAGE

### **Don't Forget: HIP and Migratory Duck Stamps!**

All hunters (whether licensed or exempt from being licensed) who plan to hunt doves, waterfowl, rails, woodcock, snipe, coots, gallinules or moorhens in Virginia must be registered with the Virginia Harvest Information Program (HIP). HIP is required each year and a new registration number is needed for the upcoming season. You can register online at [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com) or call 1-888-788-9772.

Also, Virginia waterfowl hunters must obtain a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp and the Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp (unless license exempt) to hunt waterfowl in Virginia. The annual Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp can be purchased for \$10.00 (resident or non-resident) at VDGIF license agents or clerks that sell Virginia hunting licenses or from the Department's website, [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com). To request collector stamps and prints, contact Mike Hinton by e-mail at [ducks@hintons.org](mailto:ducks@hintons.org).

## Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and hawking as prescribed. Shooting and hawking hours for all waterfowl, all seasons is 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset, (except when permitted in the September Canada Goose season and the Light Goose Conservation Order season). See sunrise-sunset timetable on page 28. **Non-toxic shot is required for all waterfowl hunting.**

## Possession Limits

After opening day, possession limit is equal to two daily limits, (except snow geese where the possession limit has been removed), but no one is allowed to have more than one daily bag limit of game in his possession while in the forests, fields or waters of this state. Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

## Duck Seasons

**October 7–11** (Black duck closed)

**November 20–December 4**

**December 11–January 29**

**October 23** Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day, see page 8 for details.



Scaup

**Daily Bag Limit:** 6 ducks which may include no more than 4 mallards (only 2 can be hen mallards), 4 scoters, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 scaup, 2 pintail, 1 black duck (except closed during Oct. 7-11), 1 canvasback, 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous whistling duck.

Closed season on harlequin ducks.

The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit. No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

## American Black Duck Migration Study

VDGIF is cooperating in a study to examine the winter ecology and migration patterns of black ducks. The main objectives are to evaluate local movements of black ducks wintering in Virginia, to determine their migration routes, and to assess the timing of their migrations from Virginia to their northern nesting grounds and back. Data thus far has provided some interesting information on movement patterns. Black ducks marked in Virginia during the winter have migrated to nesting areas throughout eastern Canada, from the Canadian Maritimes and Newfoundland in the east, to as far north as James Bay, and as far west as Western Ontario. For additional information on this study and to follow the black duck migration, visit our website at [www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/waterfowl/](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/waterfowl/).

## Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day–October 23, 2010

Youth 15 years and younger may harvest the allowed daily bag limit of ducks (as specified on page 7), coots, mergansers, gallinules, moorhens, 2 Canada geese, and 1 tundra swan (if the youth possesses a tundra swan permit) on the designated youth waterfowl hunting day. Youth 12 years of age and older will need a valid Virginia state hunting license. All participating youth must be HIP registered and accompanied by a licensed adult at least 18 years of age or older. The accompanying adult may not hunt the species listed above on this day.

## Waterfowl Hunting On Wildlife Management Areas

For information about waterfowl hunting opportunities on Department Wildlife Management Areas, refer to the “2010-2011 Hunting & Trapping in Virginia, Regulations and Information Digest” or online at [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com).

**Note:** Waterfowl hunting on the Amelia, Briery Creek and James River Wildlife Management Areas is permitted only on the opening day, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the duck and goose seasons.



### Special Sea Duck Season in the \*Special Sea Duck Zone

Sea duck species are scoter, long-tailed duck (formerly oldsquaw), and eider.

#### October 7–January 31

**Bag limit:** 7 per day (14 in possession), but may include no more than 4 scoters (8 in possession).

#### \*Special Sea Duck Zone Boundary

Those waters at a distance greater than 800 yards from any shore, island or emergent vegetation in the following areas: the ocean waters of Virginia, the tidal waters of Northampton and Accomack counties, and the Chesapeake Bay and each of its tributaries up to the first highway bridge. Back Bay and its tributaries are not included in the special sea duck hunting area.

#### Outside the Special Sea Duck Zone

Sea ducks may be taken during the regular duck season outside the Special Sea Duck Zone but must be counted as part of the regular duck season daily bag limit.



# Light Goose

## (Greater and Lesser Snow Geese and Ross' Geese)

Regular Season

**October 7–January 31:** statewide

**Bag limit:** 25 per day, no possession limit.

Conservation Order Season (see hunt zone below)

**February 1–March 26**

**Bag limit:** No daily or possession limit

**Special Hunting Methods:** Electronic calls, unplugged shotguns and extended shooting hours to 1/2 hour after sunset.

**Special Requirements:** All hunters who plan to participate during this season must register online ([www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com)) or by phone, obtain a harvest report form prior to hunting, and return the report form back to the Department within two weeks following the close of the season.

**Conservation Order Season Zone:** Same as the AP Canada Goose Zone—The area east of the Stafford/King George County line from the Potomac River south to the Rappahannock River, then west along the Stafford County line to Interstate 95, then south along Interstate 95 to Route 460 in Petersburg, then southeast along Route 460 to Route 32 in the City of Suffolk, then south along Route 32 to the North Carolina border.



Snow geese

## Conservation Order Season Hunt Zone





Atlantic brant

## Atlantic Brant

**November 20–27**

**December 11–January 29**

**Bag limit:** 2 per day, 4 in possession.

## Coots



American coot

**October 7–11**

**November 20–December 4**

**December 11–January 29**

**Bag limit:** 15 per day, 30 in possession.

## Gallinules/Moorhens

**October 7–11**

**November 20–December 4**

**December 11–January 29**

**Bag limit:** 15 per day, 30 in possession.



Common moorhen

## Mergansers

**October 7–11**

**November 20–December 4**

**December 11–January 29**

**Bag limit:** 5 per day in addition to the regular duck bag, no more than 2 hooded mergansers (10 in possession, only 4 of which may be hooded mergansers).



Hooded merganser



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# Canada Goose



Atlantic Population Zone (AP) [including Back Bay]  
**November 20–December 4 and December 24–January 29**  
**Bag Limit:** 2 geese per day

Southern James Bay Population Zone (SJBZ)  
**November 20–December 4, December 15–January 14, and  
January 15–February 15**

**Bag Limit:** 3 geese per day: Nov. 20–Dec. 4 and Dec. 15–Jan. 14  
5 geese per day: Jan. 15–Feb. 15

Resident Population Zone (RP)  
**November 20–December 4 and December 11–February 26**  
**Bag Limit:** 5 geese per day (10 in possession)

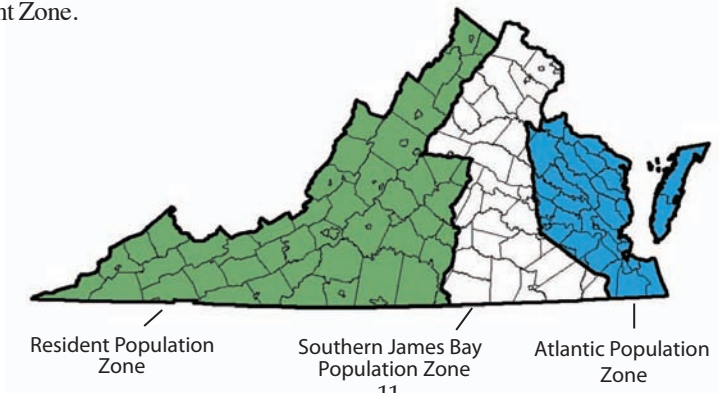
## Canada Goose Zones

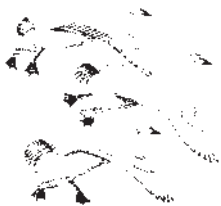
The dividing lines between the hunting zones is as follows:

**Atlantic Population (AP) Hunt Zone** – The area east of the Stafford/King George County line from the Potomac River south to the Rappahannock River, then west along the Stafford County line to Interstate 95, then south along Interstate 95 to Route 460 in Petersburg, then southeast along Route 460 to Route 32 in the City of Suffolk, then south along Route 32 to the North Carolina border.

**Southern James Bay Population (SJBZ) Hunt Zone** – The area to the west of the AP Hunt Zone boundary and east of the following line: the “Blue Ridge” (Loudoun County-Clarke County line) at the West Virginia-Virginia border, south to Interstate 64 (the Blue Ridge line follows county borders along the western edge of Loudoun-Fauquier-Rappahannock-Madison-Green-Albemarle and into Nelson counties), then east along Interstate 64 to Route 15, then south along Route 15 to the North Carolina line.

**Resident Population (RP) Hunt Zone** – The portion of the state west of the SJBZ Hunt Zone.





## Tundra Swan:

**December 1–January 31**

**Bag limit:** 1 per permit.

### Tundra Swan Permit

Before any person may hunt tundra swans in Virginia, he or she must first apply for and receive a tundra swan hunt permit.

Permits are issued through a special drawing held in October.

Deadline for applications is October 1, 2010. The Department will issue no more than 600 swan hunting permits. The drawing is open only to holders of a valid Virginia hunting license. Hunters may apply for a swan permit by mail, online through the agency website ([www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com)), or by telephone at 1-877-VAHUNTS.

Swan hunting permits are non-transferable and are valid for use only by the person to whom issued. Permits must be in the immediate possession of the permit holder while swan hunting. Immediately at the time and place of kill successful permittees must cancel their swan hunting permit by permanently recording the month and day of kill and by attaching the permit to the swan as instructed. The VDGIF is required to obtain hunter participation and harvest information to offer this tundra swan hunting season. Hunters are required to complete the accompanying tundra swan hunt questionnaire and return it to the address listed on the questionnaire at the end of your hunt. Those who fail to return a completed questionnaire by February 15, 2011 are ineligible for future drawings.

### Tundra Swan Hunt Area

Hunting will be permitted in all counties and portions of counties lying east of I-95 and south of the Prince William-Stafford County line in Chopawamsic Creek at Quantico Marine Corps Base.

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## Motorboat and PWC Operators

Boating Safety Courses Are Required

### Boats With Motors—10hp or Greater

Age 20 or younger, July 1, 2011

Age 30 or younger, July 1, 2012

Age 40 or younger, July 1, 2013

Age 45 or younger, July 1, 2014

Age 50 or younger, July 1, 2015

All ages by July 1, 2016

### Personal Watercraft (PWC) “Jet Ski”

Age 20 or younger, July 1, 2009

Age 35 or younger, July 1, 2010

Age 50 or younger, July 1, 2011

All ages by July 1, 2012



## Where to Obtain a License

- ◆ **Online:** At [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com). Select the license(s) you want, pay with your VISA or MasterCard, and print your license(s) after you pay.
- ◆ **In Person:** Sold by some clerks of the Circuit Court and hundreds of license agents around the state.
- ◆ **By Phone:** Customer Service, 1-866-721-6911.

## License Fees

Licenses are valid for one year from the date of purchase with three exceptions: the bear, deer, turkey license, the Virginia migratory waterfowl conservation stamp, and the apprentice hunting license.

### Resident Hunting Licenses

**Sportsman's License** (*age 16 and older*) . . . . . \$120.00

Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, muzzleloading license, freshwater fishing license, and trout license

**Hunting License** (*age 16 and older*) . . . . . 18.00

**County or City Hunting License** (*age 16 and older*) . . . . . 11.00

For county or city of residence only

**Apprentice Hunting License** . . . . . 11.00

Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. **Valid for 2 years from date of purchase.**

**Junior Hunting License** (*age 12 to 15; optional for under 12 years old*) . . . . . 8.50

**Junior Combination Hunting License** (*age 12 to 15*) . . . . . 16.00

Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, and muzzleloading license.

**Junior Lifetime Hunting License** (*under age 12*) . . . . . 250.00

No annual bear, deer, turkey license required until age 12. National forest stamp, State Forest Stamp, County Damage Stamp and Bonus Deer Permits, if applicable, are required in addition to this license. Upon proof of completion of a hunter education course or equivalent, the license is transferable to a lifetime hunting license at no additional fee.

*Available through the Richmond office or by mail.*

**Legacy Hunting License** . . . . . 125.00

Must be purchased before age 2. *Available through the Richmond office or by mail.*

*continued on page 14*

## Lifetime Hunting License

Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. *Available through the Richmond office or by mail.*

Age 12-44 .....	255.00
<i>(hunter education course required under age 16)</i>	
Age 45-50 .....	205.00
Age 51-55 .....	155.00
Age 56-60 .....	105.00
Age 61-64 .....	55.00
Age 65 and over .....	15.00

## Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Lifetime License ..... 10.00

Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this hunting license. *Available through the Richmond Office or by mail.*

## Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Veteran

### Lifetime License ..... 10.00

Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, muzzle-loading license, and freshwater fishing license. All other applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. *Available through the Richmond Office or by mail.*

## Senior Citizen Hunting License (age 65 and over) ..... 7.00

Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this license.

## Non-resident Hunting Licenses

### Non-resident Hunting License (age 16 and older) ..... 86.00

### Non-resident 3-Day Trip License (age 16 and older) ..... 46.00

Must be 3 consecutive hunting days; no Sunday hunting.

### Non-resident Apprentice Hunting License ..... 21.00

Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits may be required in addition to this license. **Valid for 2 years from date of purchase.**

### Non-resident Youth Hunting License (under age 12) ..... 13.00

### Non-resident Youth Hunting License (age 12 to 15) ..... 16.00

### Non-resident Youth Combination Hunting License (age 12 to 15) ..... 31.00

Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, and muzzleloading license.

### Non-resident Legacy Hunting License ..... 250.00

Must be purchased before age 2. *Available through the Richmond office or by mail.*

### Non-resident Lifetime Hunting License ..... 505.00

Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this license. *Available through the Richmond office or by mail.*

**Hunting (Shooting) Preserve** ..... 18.00  
To hunt within the boundaries of a licensed shooting preserve, in lieu of other required licenses.

**Miscellaneous Licenses, Stamps, and Permits**

*One or more of the following may be required in addition to a hunting license.*

**Licenses:**

**Stationary shore blind\*** ..... 23.00  
**Floating blind** ..... 40.50  
**Offshore Blind Stake\*** (limit 4 per licensee) ..... 5.50

\* All applications for stationary blind licenses and offshore blind stake licenses must be made to the clerk of the circuit court or license agent of the county wherein or nearest to which the blind site is located or in which it is to be used. These licenses are not sold thru POS. With each license the clerk or agent delivers a metal license plate which is to be affixed to the blind or offshore blind stake where it may be easily observed.

**Stamps:**

**Federal Migratory Bird Stamp** ..... 15.00  
To take migratory waterfowl, required of persons 16 years of age and over in addition to hunting license and sold at U.S. Post Offices or online at [www.duckstamp.com](http://www.duckstamp.com). Stamp must be signed in ink across the face and in possession during hunting. **Valid July 1–June 30.**

**Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp** ..... 10.00  
Required of persons 16 years of age and older, unless license exempt. **Valid July 1–June 30.**

**Permits:**

**National Forest Permit** ..... 4.00  
To hunt and trap within National Forests. Not required of residents under the age of 16 to trap; residents 65 and older who possess a valid license to hunt or trap.

**Virginia State Forest Use Permit** (*age 16 or older*) ..... 16.00  
Allows hunting, trapping, fishing, mountain biking, and horse riding. No motorized vehicles on gated roads/trails (open or closed). Sold in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Forestry.

**Report Wildlife Violations**  
**1-800-237-5712**  
**or e-mail**  
**[wildcrime@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:wildcrime@dgif.virginia.gov)**

## What Terms Do I Need to Understand?

Migratory Birds are birds protected by federal law as a result of treaties signed with other countries. Protected migratory birds are listed in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Section. 10.13. This list includes almost all birds found in the United States with the exception of the house sparrow, feral pigeon (commonly called rock dove), European starling, Eurasian collared-dove, mute swan, and upland game birds (which are protected by state laws).

All migratory birds are protected. However, a subset of migratory birds classified as migratory game birds may be hunted in accordance with State and Federal regulations. The list of migratory game birds includes species of ducks, geese (including brant), swans, mergansers, doves, cranes, rails, coots, gallinules, and moorhens, woodcock, and snipe.

**Daily bag limit** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination (aggregate) of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season in any one specified geographic area for which a daily bag limit is prescribed.

**Aggregate daily bag limit** means the maximum number of migratory game birds permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season when such person hunts in more than one specified geographic area and/or for more than one species for which a combined daily bag limit is prescribed. The aggregate daily bag limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest daily bag limit prescribed for any one species or for any one specified geographic area in which taking occurs.

**Possession limit** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or a combination of species permitted to be possessed by any one person when lawfully taken in the United States in any one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed.

**Aggregate possession limit** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination of species taken in the United States permitted to be possessed by any one person when taking and possession occurs in more than one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed. The aggregate possession limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest possession limit prescribed for any one of the species or specified geographic areas in which taking and possession occurs.

**Personal abode** means one's principal or ordinary home or dwelling place, as distinguished from one's temporary or transient place of abode or dwelling such as a hunting club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house used as a hunting club, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used during a hunting, pleasure or business trip.

**Migratory bird preservation facility** means:

- (1) Any person who, at their residence or place of business and for hire or other consideration; or



- (2) Any taxidermist, cold-storage facility or locker plant which, for hire or other consideration; or
- (3) Any hunting club which, in the normal course of operations; receives, possesses, or has in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person for purposes of picking, cleaning, freezing, processing, storage, or shipment.

**Normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation** means a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Normal agricultural operation** means a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or agricultural practice that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**Normal soil stabilization practice** means a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for agricultural soil erosion control.

**Baited area** means any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.

**Baiting** means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

**Manipulation** means the alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops by activities that include but are not limited to mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning, or herbicide treatments. The term manipulation does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed, or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

**Natural vegetation** means any non-agricultural, native, or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or other propagules. The term natural vegetation does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the year of planting is considered natural vegetation.

## Lawful Hunting Methods

**It is legal to take migratory game birds including waterfowl, coots, and cranes, on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas:**

- Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics);
- Standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice;
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed; or
- Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

It is **legal** to take migratory game birds, **except waterfowl, coots and cranes**, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

**Wanton waste of migratory game birds** No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

**Non-toxic Shot** No person may take ducks, geese (including brant), swans, coots, mergansers, moorhens, gallinules, rails or snipe while possessing shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than approved non-toxic shot. For a list of approved non-toxic shot, see page 5 or <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdissues/nontoxic.htm>.

**Opening Day of a Season** No person on the opening day of the season shall possess any freshly killed migratory game birds in excess of the daily bag limit, or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies.

**Field Possession Limit** No person shall possess, have in custody, or transport more than the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies, of migratory game birds, tagged or not tagged, at or between the place where taken and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or

temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

**Tagging requirement** No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at his personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter, stating his address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed. Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.

**Custody of birds of another** No person shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

**Termination of possession** Subject to all other requirements of this part, the possession of birds taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to another person as a gift; or have been delivered by him to a post office, a common carrier, or a migratory bird preservation facility and consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

**Gift of migratory game birds** No person may receive, possess, or give to another, any freshly killed migratory game birds as a gift, except at the personal abodes of the donor or donee, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter who took the birds, stating such hunter's address, the total number and species of birds and the date such birds were taken.

**Transportation of birds of another** No person shall transport migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

**Species identification requirement** No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

**Marking package or container** No person shall transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier migratory game birds unless the package or container in which such birds are transported has the name and address of the shipper and the consignee and an accurate statement of the numbers of each species of birds therein contained clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof.

More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges opened to public hunting. For additional information on refuge specific regulations see <http://www.fws.gov/refuges/>.

## Unlawful Hunting Methods

### No persons shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance;
- With a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells. This restriction does not apply to crows and during dates States have selected under the Conservation Order for light geese (i.e. greater and lesser snow and Ross' geese) or those selected for the control of resident Canada geese;
- From or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water;
- From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind, except that paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance;
- From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased;
- By the use or aid of live birds as decoys; although not limited to, it shall be a violation of this paragraph for any person to take migratory waterfowl on an area where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking, confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl;
- By the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. This restriction does not apply to crows or during dates States have selected under the Conservation Order for light geese (i.e. greater and lesser snow and Ross's geese) or those selected for the control of resident Canada geese;
- By means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird;
- By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited.

## Waterfowl Blind Laws

**General:** The laws governing the licensing and location of waterfowl blinds are included in the Code of Virginia, promulgated by the General Assembly. These are implemented by regulations adopted by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

**Blinds Generally:** Blinds located west of I-95 are not subject to these laws and regulations, nor do they apply to blinds located in Accomack and Northampton counties. No new blind licenses will be issued for additional shore and stationary blinds in the city of Virginia Beach. Floating blinds may not anchor within 500 yards of any licensed blind.

**Stationary Blinds:** Is a structure erected at a fixed location either on the shores of the public waters or in the public waters for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl. A stationary blind shall be (1) of such size and strength that it can be occupied by and conceal one or more hunters, or (2) large enough to accommodate and conceal a boat or skiff from which one or more hunters intend to hunt or shoot waterfowl.

**Floating Blind:** Is a floating device, whether in motion or anchored, that can be occupied by and conceal one or more hunters, uses a means of concealment other than the device's paint or coloration, and is used in the public waters for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl.

**Offshore Blind Stake Site:** Is a specific location in the public waters where a stake is licensed for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl from a licensed floating blind. Valid only in the counties of Caroline, King George, Essex, Westmoreland, and Richmond.

**Waterfowl Blind Licenses:** All applications for stationary or offshore blind stake licenses shall be made to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county or city in which or nearest which the blind site is located. Floating blind licenses can be obtained from any license agent or online at [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com). The license plate furnished must be affixed to the blind at a location where it can be easily seen.

When Blind Licenses Are Sold:

*Stationary blind license for riparian owner:* July 1- August 31.

*Stationary blind license for nonriparian owner:* July 1-September 30.

*Floating blind licenses:* on or after July 1.

*Offshore Blind Stake Site license* for nonriparian owner who has not already licensed and erected a stationary blind (see page 24): November 1-10.

## Attention Stationary Waterfowl Blind Licensees

Changes to Virginia Law establish new dates for the purchase of stationary waterfowl blind licenses beginning on May 1, 2011. These changes separate time periods for the purchase of the following three license types:

Riparian owners, their lessees or permittees: May 1 through June 15; plates with current decal must be affixed to a stake or blind by June 30.

Nonriparian license for a stationary blind in the public waters previously licensed the year before: July 1 through August 15. plates with current decal must be affixed to a stake or blind by August 31.

Nonriparian license for a stationary blind in the public waters *not* previously licensed the year before: September 1 through October 15; plates with current decal must be affixed to a stake or blind by November 1.

If a stake has been erected on the site of a stationary blind, such stake must be replaced by a blind by November 1 pursuant to the provisions of § 29.1-341. Such stationary blinds shall conform to the standards prescribed in § 29.1-341.

**Spacing of Blinds Generally:** Except for adjacent landowners, blinds may be placed no closer than 500 yards to each other, except they may be placed closer together with the mutual consent of the licensees involved. Except for county exceptions, listed on pages 24 and 25, floating blinds may be positioned no closer than 500 yards to any other licensed blind, whether it is occupied or not, without consent of the owner of the neighboring blind. Stationary blinds cannot be located in any water having a depth of more than eight feet at mean high water.

**Rights of Riparian Landowner:** The owners of riparian rights or their invitees shall not be required to obtain a stationary blind license when hunting waterfowl from such a blind located on the riparian owner's property. However, a stationary blind license shall be required in order to afford the riparian owners the protections provided by Virginia law. The owner of riparian rights, his lessee or permittee has exclusive privileges of licensing blinds on his shoreline and prior rights of licensing and erecting blinds in the public waters in front of such shoreline. These blinds shall not be located in water deeper than eight feet at mean high tide, nor shall they be further than halfway across the body of water from the riparian owner's shoreline. The exercise of these prior rights is valid when a license has been obtained and displayed on a stake or blind by August 31. No other blind may be located within 500 yards of this stake or blind without consent of the owner, permittee, or lessee. The stake must be replaced by an erected stationary blind as specified by Code by November 1 to be a licensed blind under the law. The owner's rights extend out from his shoreline to the point where the water reaches eight feet in depth at mean high tide. Where the lands of two property owners adjoin, each may place blinds on his property or in the public waters in front of his property without regard to the placement of blinds on his neighbor's property.

**Rights of Nonriparian Owner:** Although the law states that a riparian landowner who does not license a blind on his shore by August 31 forfeits the privilege for that season, it does not mean a nonriparian owner can erect or license a blind on the property of another without permission. If a landowner has not licensed a stake or a blind by August 31, a nonriparian owner may license a site in the public waters in front of such land, providing there are no other licensed blinds within 500 yards. Such locations, not licensed by a riparian landowner in public waters, shall belong to whoever first obtains a license and erects a stake or blind. The nonriparian license for a stationary blind in public waters may be obtained on and after July 1 and on or before September 30. A stake or blind shall be erected on the site, and a license plate supplied with the license for that season must be affixed thereto by October 10. A nonriparian owner, having licensed a blind in a given location, has first option to license such blind each succeeding year unless the riparian landowner having claim to that location exercises his right to license it. A nonriparian licensee who does not build a blind in accordance with 29.1-341 by November 1, shall forfeit their “prior right” privilege for the next season. Again, such blind cannot be located in water in excess of eight feet in depth at mean high tide.

**Riparian Owner’s Rights Renewed Annually:** If a riparian owner fails to exercise his options, he may elect to do so the following year, thus preempting any rights of nonriparian owners who have erected blinds in the public waters in front of his shoreline.

**Penalty for Violations:** Any person who hunts or shoots migratory waterfowl in the public waters of this Commonwealth from a boat, float, raft or other buoyant craft or device within 500 yards of any legally licensed erected stationary blind of another without the consent of the licensee shall be guilty of a criminal offense that is punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor. This provision shall not apply to any person when in active pursuit of a visible crippled waterfowl which was legally shot by the person.

Additionally, any person who erects a stationary blind within 500 yards of another licensed blind without permission of the licensee is guilty of a trespass, and the owner of the blind so encroached upon may maintain an action for damages. It should be noted that this is a criminal offense. It should also be noted that by November 1 a stationary blind must be erected; therefore, a stake with a stationary license affixed thereto cannot be considered to be a stationary blind after November 1.

**Loss of Blind License:** The violation of any of the provisions of law or regulations as to hunting migratory waterfowl from licensed blinds shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor and, in addition to other authorized penalties, the trial court shall immediately revoke the license of the blind owner who will have the same privileges as a new applicant to apply for a blind license the following year. Any blind for which the license has been revoked shall be destroyed by the former licensee or a conservation police officer.

**Accidental Destruction of Blind:** If a blind is destroyed in any manner beyond the control of the owner, it may be replaced within 30 days without losing the position it formerly occupied.

**Number of Blinds Permitted:** No club or individual who does not own riparian rights shall be permitted to license more than two stationary blinds in the public waters in any one season.

**Floating Blinds, Where Prohibited:** The use of floating blinds is prohibited in the counties of Caroline, King George, Essex, Westmoreland, and Richmond in any of the public marshes, guts, streams, branches, creeks, or bays, including among others, Green Bay and Port Tobago Bay, flowing into the Rappahannock River or in any of its tributaries, or in Buckner's Creek, Nomini Creek and Nomini Bay, flowing into the Potomac River or any of its tributaries, **except from a licensed Offshore Blind Stake Site.** (See below for details.)

**Offshore Blind Stake Sites:** Offshore blind stakes shall be removed from the public waters within 15 days of the close of the waterfowl season.

*Nonriparian Owner:* A nonriparian owner who has not already licensed and erected a stationary blind for the year in the 5-county area identified above and who holds a valid hunting license, may apply to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which an offshore blind stake site is to be located for a license for an offshore blind stake site. The license for an offshore blind stake site may be obtained from November 1 through November 10 of each year. Up to 4 offshore blind stake site licenses may be purchased per licensee. Once obtained, a stake shall be erected on the site and a license plate supplied with the license for that season shall be affixed thereto by November 10.

*Riparian Owner:* From November 11 through November 15 of each year, any riparian owner and any other person who has already licensed and erected a stationary blind for the year in the areas noted above, and who holds a valid hunting license, may apply to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which an offshore blind stake site is to be located for a license for any remaining offshore blind stake sites. Up to 4 offshore blind stake site licenses may be purchased per licensee. Once obtained, a stake shall be erected on the site, and a license plate supplied with the license for that season shall be affixed thereto by November 15.

**Placement of Blinds in Fairfax, Prince William, and Stafford counties:**

No stationary blind shall be more than 300 yards from shore, except in waters less than 600 yards wide, in which case the blind may be no more than half the width of the water from shore. This distance is measured from the low water mark.

No license shall be issued for stationary waterfowl blinds on the Potomac River in Fairfax County adjacent to National Park Service lands in the Great Hunting Creek and Dyke Marsh areas.



**Floating Blinds in Fairfax, Prince William, and Stafford counties:** Floating blinds must be anchored and located no closer to another's blind than 400 yards unless person has written permission of blind owner. Such blinds must be taken in at a half hour after sunset.

In the area adjacent to the National Park Service lands in the Great Hunting Creek and Dyke Marsh areas floating blinds must be attached to a Game Department-placed post or buoy. Only one floating blind per post. These are on a first-come, first-served basis, sites to be occupied no earlier than 4:00 a.m. or later than one half hour after sunset, and blinds removed each day. Hunters in licensed floating blinds can hunt from designated locations during legal shooting hours on Thanksgiving Day and on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays during the open season.

**Placement of Blinds Adjacent to Certain Wildlife Management Areas:** No stationary blinds shall be licensed in the waters adjacent to the Chickahominy Wildlife Management Area in Charles City County, the Game Farm Marsh WMA in New Kent County, and the Ragged Island WMA in Isle of Wight County.

**Occupied or Unoccupied Blinds:** Hunters may not hunt within 500 yards of any licensed blind whether it is occupied or not.

**Crippled Waterfowl:** When in active pursuit of a visible waterfowl which was legally shot, the hunter may pursue such waterfowl without regard to the 500 yard prohibition protecting licensed waterfowl blinds.

**Jump Shooting from Boats:** Permitted where appropriate landowner permission has been secured or where generally permitted on public waters. Consult with local game warden to learn local restrictions. Not permitted within 500 yards of a licensed blind, except with consent of blind owner. If a boat is used for jump shooting and is modified for the purpose of concealing the hunter, it is a floating blind and must be licensed as such. Jump shooting is not permitted from a boat having a motor attached or any sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled and its progress therefrom has ceased.

**Abandoned Blinds:** Those licensing stationary blinds in the public waters shall remove same when licenses are allowed to expire or when they no longer intend to use them.

**Waterfowl Blind Cleanup:** Hunters are asked to remove unnatural materials, such as netting, camouflage cloth, wire, or twine from stationary blinds after the waterfowl hunting season. Birds such as ospreys, eagles, and owls often use blind structures for perching and/or nesting. Such materials, if left after the hunting season, can cause injury and even death to these birds if they become entangled in the material.

## Areas Closed To Waterfowl Hunting

The discharge of firearms is prohibited within 750 yards of a wildlife sanctuary in any city in Virginia.

**Taking, attempting to take, pursuing or disturbing waterfowl is prohibited in the following areas:**

- ◆ In Virginia Beach on the waters and from the shores of Crystal Lake, Linkhorn and Broad Bay and Long Creek and their tributaries.
- ◆ Hog Island State Waterfowl Refuge in Surry County and all of the waters of the James River within a radius of 1,000 yards around that island, with the exception of blinds erected by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.
- ◆ From Presquile National Wildlife Refuge to emergent or upland vegetation on the opposite shoreline (except for the Turkey Island Cutoff navigational channel).
- ◆ Gaston Reservoir (Roanoke River) from a point beginning at High Rock and extending to the John H. Kerr Dam.
- ◆ Within the posted section of the Rappahannock River adjacent to Lands End Waterfowl Refuge in King George County.
- ◆ The waters of the Great Hunting Creek embayment within the City of Alexandria, and the waters of the Potomac River in Fairfax County north of Dyke Marsh and south of the City of Alexandria and between the shore and a line 1,000 feet from the Maryland State line, although waterfowl that have been wounded elsewhere may be pursued into this area.
- ◆ The waters of Kane Creek Waterfowl Refuge within the boundaries of Mason Neck State Park in Fairfax County.
- ◆ The waters of the Potomac River in Fairfax County adjacent to the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge extending from Sycamore Point northeasterly to Hallowing Point including all tributary creeks, guts, and inlets along the shoreline.
- ◆ The portion of the New River that lies entirely within the boundaries of the Radford Army Ammunition Plant in the counties of Montgomery and Pulaski.

**Subscribe to Virginia Wildlife magazine**  
**[www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com) or call**  
**1-800-710-9369**

## Avian Influenza in Waterfowl

Low pathogenic strains of avian influenza (AI) are common in certain wild bird populations especially waterfowl and shorebirds, but generally do not cause obvious signs of infection nor pose a risk to humans. The highly pathogenic Asian strain of H5N1 avian influenza was first detected in 1997 in Southeast Asia and has spread to other parts of Asia, as well as Russia, Europe and Africa. People can become infected with this strain of H5N1 avian influenza virus; however, this virus does not move easily to humans. This Asian strain of H5N1 is unusual in that it has caused outbreaks of illness and death in various wild bird species. To date, the highly pathogenic strain of Asian H5N1 has not been found in North America.

Hunters should not be overly concerned about the Eurasian high path H5N1 strain at this time, but should take common sense precautions about hunting hygiene. Even apparently healthy wild birds can carry other infectious organisms that can move between wildlife and people.

- Do not handle birds that are obviously sick or birds found dead.
- Keep your game birds cool, clean and dry.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while cleaning your birds.
- Use rubber gloves when cleaning game.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes after dressing birds.
- Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward; use hot soapy water, then disinfect with a 10% chlorine bleach solution.
- Cook game meat thoroughly (155-165° F) to kill disease organisms and parasites. Avian influenza is not transmitted through cooked food.

The Department will be conducting surveillance for AI in migratory waterfowl this fall and winter as part of a Nationwide Early Detection Surveillance Plan. We will be asking hunters to allow us to sample some of the birds they harvest. More information on Avian Influenza and the Department's Avian Influenza Surveillance and Response Plan can be found on our website at [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com).

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## Boat Smart From the Start, Wear Your Life Jacket

- Check the weather before leaving.
- Wear a life jacket or float coat.
- Remain seated and keep weight evenly distributed.
- Anchor from the bow, never from the stern.
- Properly load your boat.
- Stay with your boat if it should capsize.
- Dress for the water temperature — Guard against hypothermia.
- Leave the alcohol at home.



For more information visit our website at [www.dgif.virginia.gov](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov).

# Sunrise and Sunset Timetable—Richmond, Virginia

Add one hour for Daylight Saving Time.

Days of Month	Oct. 2010	Nov. 2010	Dec. 2010	Jan. 2011	Feb. 2011	Mar. 2011	
	Sunrise/Sunset (a.m./p.m.)	Sunrise/Sunset (a.m./p.m.)	Sunrise/Sunset (a.m./p.m.)	Sunrise/Sunset (a.m./p.m.)	Sunrise/Sunset (a.m./p.m.)	Sunrise/Sunset (a.m./p.m.)	Apply corrections below to Richmond sunrise-sunset times to obtain official times at other Virginia locations.
1	6:05 5:53	6:35 5:12	7:06 4:52	7:25 5:02	7:14 5:34	6:42 6:03	
2	6:06 5:52	6:36 5:11	7:07 4:52	7:25 5:03	7:13 5:35	6:40 6:04	
3	6:07 5:50	6:37 5:09	7:08 4:52	7:25 5:04	7:12 5:36	6:39 6:05	
4	6:08 5:49	6:38 5:08	7:09 4:51	7:25 5:05	7:11 5:37	6:37 6:06	
5	6:09 5:47	6:39 5:07	7:09 4:51	7:25 5:06	7:10 5:38	6:36 6:07	
6	6:10 5:46	6:40 5:06	7:10 4:51	7:25 5:06	7:09 5:39	6:35 6:08	
7	6:11 5:44	6:41 5:06	7:11 4:51	7:25 5:07	7:08 5:40	6:33 6:09	
8	6:12 5:43	6:42 5:05	7:12 4:51	7:25 5:08	7:07 5:41	6:32 6:10	
9	6:12 5:41	6:43 5:04	7:13 4:52	7:25 5:09	7:06 5:42	6:30 6:11	
10	6:13 5:40	6:44 5:03	7:14 4:52	7:25 5:10	7:05 5:44	6:29 6:12	
11	6:14 5:38	6:45 5:02	7:14 4:52	7:25 5:11	7:04 5:45	6:27 6:13	
12	6:15 5:37	6:46 5:01	7:15 4:52	7:24 5:12	7:03 5:46	6:26 6:14	
13	6:16 5:35	6:47 5:01	7:16 4:52	7:24 5:13	7:02 5:47	6:24 6:15	
14	6:17 5:34	6:48 5:00	7:17 4:52	7:24 5:14	7:01 5:48	6:23 6:16	
15	6:18 5:33	6:50 4:59	7:17 4:53	7:24 5:15	6:59 5:49	6:21 6:17	
16	6:19 5:31	6:51 4:58	7:18 4:53	7:23 5:16	6:58 5:50	6:20 6:18	
17	6:20 5:30	6:52 4:57	7:19 4:53	7:23 5:17	6:57 5:51	6:18 6:19	
18	6:21 5:29	6:53 4:57	7:19 4:54	7:22 5:18	6:56 5:52	6:17 6:20	
19	6:22 5:27	6:54 4:56	7:20 4:54	7:22 5:19	6:55 5:53	6:15 6:21	
20	6:23 5:26	6:55 4:56	7:20 4:55	7:22 5:20	6:53 5:54	6:14 6:21	
21	6:24 5:25	6:56 4:55	7:21 4:55	7:21 5:22	6:52 5:55	6:12 6:22	
22	6:25 5:23	6:57 4:55	7:21 4:56	7:21 5:23	6:51 5:56	6:11 6:23	
23	6:26 5:22	6:58 4:54	7:22 4:56	7:20 5:24	6:50 5:57	6:09 6:24	
24	6:27 5:21	6:59 4:54	7:22 4:57	7:19 5:25	6:48 5:58	6:08 6:25	
25	6:28 5:20	7:00 4:54	7:23 4:57	7:19 5:26	6:47 5:59	6:06 6:26	
26	6:29 5:18	7:01 4:53	7:23 4:58	7:18 5:27	6:46 6:00	6:05 6:27	
27	6:30 5:17	7:02 4:53	7:23 4:59	7:17 5:28	6:44 6:01	6:03 6:28	
28	6:31 5:16	7:03 4:53	7:24 4:59	7:17 5:29	6:43 6:02	6:02 6:29	
29	6:32 5:15	7:04 4:52	7:24 5:00	7:16 5:31		6:00 6:30	
30	6:33 5:14	7:05 4:52	7:24 5:01	7:15 5:31		5:59 6:31	
31	6:34		7:24 5:01	7:14 5:33		5:57 6:31	
							<b>Location      Correction</b>
							Bristol + 19 minutes
							Cape Charles - 6 minutes
							Charlottesville + 4 minutes
							Chincoteague - 8 minutes
							Danville + 8 minutes
							Fredericksburg 0 minutes
							Newport News - 5 minutes
							Norfolk - 5 minutes
							Roanoke + 10 minutes
							Tazewell + 16 minutes
							Williamsburg - 3 minutes
							Winchester + 3 minutes

# Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp

The Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Stamp is required of all persons 16 years of age and older, unless license exempt, hunting any migratory waterfowl (ducks, geese, brant and swans) within the Commonwealth.



Artwork by Guy Crittenden

The annual Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp can be purchased for a fee of \$10.00 (resident or non-resident) online or at license agents or clerks that sell Virginia hunting licenses. When purchasing a stamp a hunter will have the option of having a paper stamp mailed to them. If a hunter selects not to have a stamp mailed, then the "privileges" section of the license will serve as proof of purchasing the stamp. Hunters receiving a paper stamp must sign it and carry it with them while hunting.

For more information about the Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp, go to the Department's website at [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com).

## Attention Hunters: Migratory Bird Banding Projects

The Department captures and leg-bands a number of migratory game bird species, including mourning doves, ducks, geese, brant and swans, as part of our annual monitoring programs. Hunters recovering a banded bird can keep the band, but remember to report the recovery information by either calling the toll-free number 1-800-327-BAND (this number is also written on the band), or reporting it online at the USGS website, [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov). After reporting the band you will receive a "Certificate of Appreciation" that includes information about where and when the bird was banded. For more information on Department migratory bird projects visit our website at [www.HuntFishVA.com](http://www.HuntFishVA.com).

Please help us help you manage migratory game birds in Virginia.

**1-800-327-BAND (2263) or  
[www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov)**

This number is **ONLY** for reporting USFWS bands.  
Private bands cannot be reported on this number.

AD Page